F. 110.

A STRANGE AND True Relation

Of One

Mr. *JOHN LEECH*;

Who

Lived in HUNTINGTON-Shire, at a place called *Rawely*, not farre distant from *Huntington Town*, who was (about ten dayes agoe) carried twelve miles in the Ayre, by two *Fiends*, and also of his sad and lamentable death.

Attested by *Persons* of unquestionable Credit, who have hereunto set their Hands.

{*John Webber* / *Jeffery Hobkins* / *Robert Shipton*} Gent. {*Frances Hall* / *James Smith* / *Thomas Cracroft*} Yeo.

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Mr. *John Leech*, who lived in *Huntingtonſhire*, at a place called *Raveley*, not far diſtant from *Huntington Town*, who was (about ten days ago) carried twelve miles in the Ayre, by two *Finnes*; and alſo of his ſad and lamentable Death.

TO ſee the juſt judgements of God fall in the very nick of time, when we are fit for nothing but everlaſting Torments; This Man it ſeems was going to a Fair with a reſolution to drink there with ſome of his friends, which did happen too ſoon I fear to his confutation; before he got two

miles from his own houſe, by chance, he met a neighbour of his, and would needs force him to go along and drink his morninges draught with him, (which proved the bittereſt that ever he drank) the honeſt man being ſomething loath, ſeeing him in that deſperate condition, alledged a great deale of buſineſs, which of neceſſity ſhould be done that day, he being not ſatisfied with that anſwer, forſt him (whether he would or no) into the Houſe, they being thus both together, he (almoſt drunk) began to be very merry, at laſt his friend asked the people of the Houſe what it was a Clock, they ſaid it was almoſt eleven, Mr. *Leech* replyed, then let the Devil take him that goeth out of this Houſe to day, they had not ſat much longer, but he was of another mind, and ſaid he muſt needs go to the Fair, which was kept at a place called *wittelſea*, ſayes his friend to him, you do not remember the Oath you made juſt now; ha, ha, ha, faith he, I'le warrant you the Devil will not trouble himſelfe with me, beſides I am ſo heavy, he will not be able to carry me halfe way to the Fair, but he will be able to carry you to your journeys end ſomewhere elſe, replyed his friend, I'le venter him, ſaid Mr. *Leech*, and ſo called for his Horſe and took his leave of his friend, and rod towards the Fair, he had not got above two miles from the Houſe, where he was a drinking, but then he began to conſider of his unlawfull Oath

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which he had broken, ſo that he was extreamly troubled in his conſcience, that he did think to turn homewards, thus he rod up and down all the day not knowing what he did, his conſcience being ſo ſorely troubled at that damnable Oath which he had took, and afterwards ſo ſimply broken; he not knowing where abouts he was, it being almoſt dark night, did wander backwards and forwards halfe the night in amazement; at laſt about one or two a clock in the night he eſpied two grim Creatures before him, in the likeneſs of Griffins, which did terrifie him very much, then preſently he heard a terrible voice, which ſaid three times, remember thy ſins and the Oath which thou haſt broken this day, at which ſound, he fell from his Horſe to the ground, as it were in a trance, but preſently felt himſelfe very roughly handled, between the two Finnes, who did hurry him in the Aire above 12. miles from that place, over a great water called *wittelſea* meare, and *Ramſey* meare, to a Town called *Dunington*, and there draped in the Patrons Yard, without either Cloaths or ſence, the next morning the ſervants going to make their Plows & harrows fit for work, beheld that ſad ſpectacle all bloody and goared with the Harrows, (they thought) and being very much aſtoniſhed at it, demanded how he came there, what he was, and where he lived; he not able to anſwer them with any thing but

ſighs and groanes, the Servants very much grieved at the poor Mans condition, ran in, and acquainted their Maſter with the paſſage, he ſeeing, with great admiration, this ſad ſpectacle, immediately cauſed a Bed to be made, and he to be laid in it, and to be covered very warm, which accordingly was done, he being thus refreſhed, began to recover his ſences, and there told them the whole ſtory, who he was, where he lived, whether he was agoing, and how he came there, and likewiſe deſired that he might have the liberty to repoſe himſelfe another day or two there, which was granted by the good Gentleman; In the mean time ſome of the Servants of the Houſe, going about ſome buſineſſe near two miles off from that place, by chance, found ſome cloaths all torne, which they brought home, ſuppoſing to be his, which being ſhewed to him he owned, ſtill continuing there, at laſt grew into a Frenzy, ſo deſperate, that they were afraid to ſtay in his Chamber, the Gentleman of the Houſe asked him if he ſhould ſend for the Miniſter to pray by him, to which he made a very deſperate anſwer and ſaid I am paſt his recovery, the Gentleman very much troubled at his anſwer, ſent privately to the Parſon of the Town, and deſired him to come to him preſently, the Miniſter makeing what haſt he could poſſible, came to the Gentlemans houſe, who up and told him this

ſad

ſad accident, the Miniſter hearing this, deſired that he might be ſuffered to go up to him alone, and he would ſee what he could do towards the recovery of his ſoul, which he feared at that time were in very great danger, the Miniſter had no ſooner entred into his Chamber, but he immediately roſe out of his Bed and ran to him and violently threw him on the ground, (which had like to have coſt the Miniſters life) ſaying, what cameſt thou hither for, the Miniſter anſwered, (as well as he could,) to comfort the faithleſs man, the noiſe being heard down, they were afraid he had miſcheived the Miniſter, which had proved true, had not they came up as they did, for they found him beating the Parſon with all the might he had, they ſeeing that, preſently got hold of both his armes, and bound them, and laid him in his bed; he ſeeing himſelfe bound, made a terrible noiſe, and at laſt broke them and got looſe, they ſeeing that, were afraid of him, and locked the door, not daring any more to go into his Chamber that day nor night, the next morning they went to the door to liſten if they could hear him ſtir, but not hearing him make any noiſe, ſuppoſed him to be a ſleep, opened the door where they beheld him upon the bed with his neck broke, his tongue out of his mouth, and his body as black as a ſhoo, all ſwelled, and every bone in his body out of joint; this ſad ſpectacle being ſeen by moſt of

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the people of the Town, was buryed being it could no longer be kept, the stanch was so great; the sufficientest men in the Town who saw this sad sight, have hereunto set their hands, *John Webber*, Gentleman. *Jeffery Hobkins*, Gentleman. *Robert Shipton*, Gentleman. *Francis Hall*, Yeoman. *James Smith*, Yeoman. *Thomas Cracroft*, Yeoman.

FINIS.